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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/013,645 01/26/98 HENDERSON

T FBAER36769

EXAMINER

LM02/0517

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT
JAMES W. PAUL
10877 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TENTH FLOOR
CENTER WEST
LOS ANGELES CA 90024

LEE, R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2713

DATE MAILED:

05/17/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/013,645

Applicant(s)

Henderson et al

Examiner

Richard Lee

Group Art Unit

2713



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Mar 7, 2000

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 7 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 7 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

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1. The Examiner wants to point out that the applicants' arguments from the amendment filed March 7, 2000 have been noted, considered, and addressed in the following new grounds of rejections. It is further noted that there is a discrepancy in the cancellation of claims. At page 2 of the amendment filed March 7, 2000, applicants requested the cancellation of claims 4, 5, and 6. However, in the remarks section as shown at page 3 of the amendment filed March 7, 2000, applicants referred to the cancellation of claims 5, 6, and 7. Since there is a specific request at page 2 of the amendment filed March 7, 2000 to cancel claims 4-6, the Examiner will treat claims 4-6 as such. Therefore, claims 1-3 and 7 are pending.

2. The drawings are objected to because element "10" as specified at page 4, line 30 and page 5, line 26 of the Specification, respectively, is not shown in any of the figures of the drawings. Correction is required.

3. Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this Office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect can be deferred until the application is allowed by the examiner.

4. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 7 depends from canceled claim 5, and as such renders the claim indefinite.

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5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henderson et al of record (5,440,337) in view of Baker et al of record (5,508,734).

Henderson et al discloses a multi-camera closed circuit television system for aircraft as shown in Figures 1, 3, and 4, and substantially the same closed circuit television system for an aircraft (see Figure 4 and column 5, lines 4-7) as claimed in claims 1 and 2, comprising substantially the same at least one video camera (22, 24 of Figure 3) providing a field of view forward and downward from the aircraft's centerline (26, 28 of Figure 7 and see column 5, lines 7-15).

Henderson et al does not particularly disclose, though, the followings:

(a) a plurality of video display modules for selecting and displaying a selected video image; a video camera control module connected to the at least one video camera and the plurality of video display modules for receiving the digital video signal and providing a plurality of selected video images to the plurality of video display modules, respectively; and wherein the at least one video camera generates a digital video signal providing a plurality of video images and the at least one video camera comprises a video camera providing a plurality of fields of view from a single video frame as claimed in claims 1 and 2; and

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(b) a plurality of personal control units, each of the plurality of personal control units corresponding to respective ones of the plurality of video display modules and connected to the video camera control module for operating the video camera control module to independently select a desired field of view for each of the video display modules as claimed in claim 1.

Regarding (a) and (b), Baker et al discloses a method and apparatus for hemispheric imaging which emphasizes peripheral content as shown in Figures 1, 6, and 8, and teaches the conventional video camera (10 of Figure 1 and see column 6, lines 27-31, lines 52-64, column 7, lines 16-18) for generating a digital video signal (see 60 of Figure 6, and column 12, lines 11-21) providing a plurality of video images and wherein the video camera provides a plurality of fields of view from a single video frame (see column 12, lines 6-8, column 13, lines 8-18); a plurality of video display modules (receive outputs from the RAMDACs 78 of Figure 8) for selecting and displaying a selected video image (see column 13, lines 8-31); a video camera control module (80 of Figure 8) connected to the at least one video camera and the plurality of video display modules for receiving the digital video signal and providing a plurality of selected video images to the plurality of video display modules, respectively; and a plurality of personal control units, each of the plurality of personal control units corresponding to respective ones of the plurality of video display modules and connected to the video camera control module for operating the video camera control module to independently select a desired field of view for each of the video display modules (i.e., users have capabilities in selecting a desired image within the system as shown in Figure 8, and as such it is considered obvious that such personal control units for user selections

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are connected to the video camera control modules 80, see column 12, lines 6-8, lines 28-41, column 13, lines 8-31). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the Henderson et al and Baker et al references in front of him/her and the general knowledge of closed circuit television systems, would have had no difficulty in providing the features of a digital camera system, a plurality of video display modules, a video camera control module, and a plurality of personal control units as taught by Baker et al for the closed circuit television system for an aircraft of Henderson et al for the same well known flight entertainment purposes of providing to passengers with the capability to individually select and/or control a desired field of view from an available multiple fields of view provided by a video camera as claimed.

7. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Henderson et al and Baker et al as applied to claims 1 and 2 in the above paragraph (6), and further in view of its claimed numerical angle values, "where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, it is not inventive to discover the optimum or workable ranges by routine experimentation." In re Aller, 220 F.2d 454, 456, 105 USPQ 233, 235 (CCPA 1955). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to arrive at the desired numerical angle values to facilitate to one's needs through routine experimentation.

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8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Lee whose telephone number is (703) 308-6612.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

Richard Lee/rl

5/15/00


RICHARD LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER